

May 5, 1981

LB 35, 257

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) The Clerk had difficulty in hearing. He is going to have to verify. It has been very noisy this morning. I have just not done this but we are going to have to have a little more order here for the Clerk to hear so we are going to have to verify the vote.

CLERK: (Read verification of vote.) 34 ayes, 12 nays, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: LB 35 passes with the emergency clause attached. Go on to the next bill on Final Reading, LB 257, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 257 has a motion on it.

PRESIDENT: Read the motion.

CLERK: Senator Remmers moves to return LB 257 to Select File for a specific amendment. That amendment is found, Mr. President, on page 1726 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Remmers.

SENATOR REMMERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the amendment that I have added would leave part of the bill as it is. It would leave the \$400,000 for the State Energy Office and it would leave the \$100,000 for the University of Nebraska for solar energy and other renewable energy source development. It would change the weatherization program for schools and put the money in the foundation and equalization fund and it would eliminate the tax credit to business and individuals for energy conserving devices which would, a tax credit of 20% or \$3,000 for individuals or 20% or \$4,000 for a business, it would eliminate that tax credit. When LB 257 was heard in committee even the sponsors seemed embarrassed by its contents. It had absolutely no chance of getting out of committee. The sponsor then stripped the bill and changed it into a harmless uranium mining bill. The bill should have been killed in committee. Well this naive country boy did not understand that it did not matter in what condition the bill gets out of committee because it can always be restored on the floor. I wasn't the only one that fell for the ruse. That might be the way the system sometimes works but it has not improved the legislative process. I am not a slow learner and I will not be caught in that manner again. On General File we had an attempt to restore the original bill but the attempt was soundly defeated. The Warner amendment was adopted with an overwhelming majority of thirty-one to nothing. The Warner amendment simply increased the severance tax from 2% to 3% and to pay these funds into the permanent school fund. All the government handouts and tax credits were rejected. With the Warner